

## Awakening

Artists: Gustavo Hochman, Limor Ashkenazi (IL)  
Project: Awakening  
Medium: Photography  
Year : 2016

'Awakening' is a joint project that presents various metaphors from the BDSM culture from the personal point of view of the two co-artists, Gustavo Hochman and Limor Ashkenazi. The artists were exposed to the BDSM world, each in a singular way and with various aspects; both experienced it in their own way. This was the founding concept of this projects and the basis of division of roles by the various metaphors.

Gustavo Hochman: "... throughout the creation process, I had to approach Limor for every little thing, touch her and lift her till the desired photograph was achieved. This was my main source of excitement way before I saw the photographic results. The BDSM world gives a crude representation of dominance versus submission, but when venturing into this world, it also represents love and tenderness, self-acceptance, giving and tearing down limitations... In my work with Limor, I felt that there were no limits here. The limitation is physical, but the human spirit aims to transcend all this and break through it."

Limor Ashkenazi: "What we were looking to manifest through the photographs was my relationship with my physical disability and the wheelchair - dominance and submission. There were situations in which I felt the disability raising its head, as a debilitating weight in my life... being totally dependent on someone else, and there were situations where I felt that I am in control of the disability by paragliding or standing at the top of the leaning Tower of Pisa." "I felt free, natural, feminine, empowered and happy. When we examined the photographs, I felt that I was falling in love with myself with each photograph."

